

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 5, 8-16, 18-21, 23, 27-28, 31, 33-36, 38-39, 41, and 44-56 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 16, 27, 36, and 44 being the independent claims.

Interview Summary

On behalf of the Applicant, the undersigned wishes to express appreciation to Examiner King for the courtesies extended during the interview conducted on October 4, 2005. During the interview on October 4, 2005, the disclosures of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,918,841 to Sweere et al. (the Sweere reference), 5,330,283 to Ballard (the Ballard reference), and 6,179,261 B1 to Lin (the Lin reference) were discussed in light of the currently pending independent claims.

The Objections To Claims 11, 14, 15, and 34 Have Been Rendered Moot

Claims 11, 14, 15, and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claims 11, 14, 15, and 34 have each been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to claims 11, 14, 15, and 34.

Claims 1, 5, 8-16, 18-21, 23, 27-28, 31, 33-36, 38-39, 41, and 44-51 Are Allowable

Claims 1, 5, 8, 11-15, 20, 27, 28, 31, 33-36, 38, 39, 41, and 44-51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sweere reference in view of the Lin reference and the Ballard reference. Claims 16, 18, 19, 21, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sweere reference in view of the Ballard reference. Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sweere reference combined with the Ballard reference in further view of the Lin reference.

As discussed during the interview, it is inappropriate to combine the disclosure of the Ballard reference with the disclosure of the Sweere reference or with the disclosures of the Sweere reference and the Lin reference to reject the currently pending claims. Specifically, the particular references disclose devices that are used in non-analogous arts. Both the Sweere reference and the Lin reference disclose devices configured to retain or otherwise mount an input device. The Ballard reference, on the other hand, discloses a mount for a bicycle seat.

Additionally, no motivation to combine the cited references exists because they are directed to solve different problems. The Sweere reference and the Lin reference disclose devices having mounts for positioning an input device at different positions with respect to another portion of device. The Ballard reference, on the other hand discloses a mount that is configured to allow a bicycle seat to be coupled to bicycle posts of different diameters.

Thus, as discussed in the interview and as the Examiner agreed, for at least the reasons discussed above, it is inappropriate to combine the Ballard reference with the disclosure of the Sweere reference or with the disclosure of the Sweere reference and the Lin reference to reject the currently pending claims. Accordingly, for at least this reason, the Applicant respectfully

submits that independent claims 1, 16, 27, 36 and 44, and the dependent claims that depend therefrom, are allowable.

The Newly Added Claims Are Allowable

The Applicant respectfully submits that newly added claims 52-56 are allowable at least because of their dependence from an allowable independent claim.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed or rendered moot. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that such objections and rejections be withdrawn. The Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that further personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

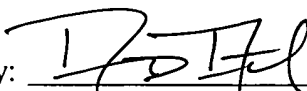
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,
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